Nuclear remembrance and action week
August 1-9, 2020

Some events and suggested actions for nuclear abolition
to commemorate the 75th anniversaries
of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

Abolition 2000
Abolition 2000 is an international network of organisations and individuals working for the global prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons through a nuclear weapons convention, and on incremental measures leading to this goal.

The Network, established in 1995, provides a forum for the exchange of information and development of joint initiatives and campaigns. Over 2000 organisations from more than 90 countries have supported the Abolition 2000 aims and founding statement.

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1. International Events

   **a. Official Hiroshima and Nagasaki ceremonies**

   The official Hiroshima commemoration ceremony will take place on Thursday August 6 from 8am-9am Japan time. The UN Secretary-General is expected to either attend the event or provide a video message if pandemic conditions prevent his attendance. Click here to watch it live. For more information see [Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony](https://www.hiroshima-pmc.jp/en/) and [Notice regarding Hiroshima Memorial 2020 ceremony procedures in light of COVID-19 pandemic](https).

   The official Nagasaki commemoration ceremony will take place on Sunday August 9 from 11am-12pm Japan time. Click here to watch it live. For more information see [Nagasaki Peace Memorial Ceremony](https://www.nagasaki-pmc.jp/en/).
**b. Peace Wave**
From August 6 at 8:15am, the time that the nuclear bomb was detonated over Hiroshima, until August 9 at 11:02am, the time the nuclear bomb was detonated over Nagasaki, peace activists around the world will undertake individual and/or group actions as part of a ‘Peace Wave’.

You can join the peace wave by undertaking your own small, creative, social media action from home or interesting location, or joining an action in your community. For more information and to register your action, please visit [Peace Wave 2020](#).

**c. International Fast**
Every year since 1984, a small group of peace campaigners from France and Germany have fasted from August 6 until 9 in commemoration of the nuclear bombings and to call for the global abolition of nuclear weapons. In recent years, they have been joined by fasters in the Ivory Coast, New Zealand, UK and USA.

This year, in the light of the Coronavirus pandemic and its devastating consequences, the fast will also highlight the many millions around the world threatened by malnutrition or famine, while governments continue to spend $100 billion per year on nuclear weapons and $1.9 trillion per year on weapons and war. Participants in the Fast will donate the money they would on food during that time to organizations or charities helping to feed the destitute.

You are invited to join the fast. Contact [Dominique Lalanne](#) (France) or [Marc Morgan](#) (UK).

**d. 2020 World Conference against A and H Bombs**
Every year Gensuikyo (the Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs) holds a world conference against A and H Bombs in Japan in conjunction with the commemorations of Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days.

The theme for the conference this year is "With the Hibakusha, Let Us Achieve a Nuclear Weapon-free, Peaceful and Just World - for the Future of the Humankind and Our Planet"

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 world conference will be held by a series of webinar sessions from August 2 until August 9. There will be three main sessions (2 hours each) on August 2, 6 and 9, plus some additional special sessions. For more information including the draft program see [2020 World Conference on A and H Bombs](#).

**e. Youth Peace Week and UN International Youth Day**
Youth Peace Week is from August 3rd to 9th 2020. Originally established in New Zealand as **Schools Peace Week** with the support of the New Zealand government, the week spread to other countries. This year it has been broadened to Youth Peace Week as it only suits schools in the Southern Hemisphere (schools in the North are mostly on summer break). The theme this year is Celebrating Diversity. For more information and to register your youth action, see [Youth Peace Week](#), visit the [Youth Peace Week facebook page](#) or contact the [Youth Peace Week coordinator](#).

Abolition 2000 also encourages those commemorating **UN International Youth Day** on August 12, to ensure that peace and nuclear disarmament are included as themes to your action or event.
**f. Ribbon 2020 – Tangible hope for No nuclear war**

The Ribbon International was founded as an artistic event to commemorate the Hiroshima and Nagasaki anniversaries. On August 4, 1985, fifteen miles of Ribbons encircled the Pentagon and other important monuments: With the message of “What I cannot bear to think of as lost forever in a nuclear war”. The Atomic Bomb Dome in Hiroshima was also encircled. Various other Ribbon events have taken place since then. On August 1st 2020 at 10:00 am (EDT), The Ribbon International will hold a Ribbon 2020 memorial event by Zoom. You are invited to join the event with your friends/family. Hold your Ribbon in front of the Zoom screen, and pray for a nuclear free world. For details see The Ribbon International 2020 event, or contact The Ribbon International.

![The Ribbon](https://example.com/ribbon.png)

**g. Other events and event Calendars**

There will be numerous local and national events to commemorate the 75th anniversary. Some of these will be listed on Abolition 2000 events calendar. Others will be listed on the FCNL Nuclear Calendar or the World Beyond War events calendar. We encourage you to check these calendars.

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**2. Actions**

**a. Sign the Hibakusha Appeal**

In April 2016, Hidankyo (the Japan Confederation of A and H Bomb Sufferers Organizations) launched an appeal for the total elimination of nuclear weapons. The appeal, which was co-sponsored by the Korean and US associations of Atomic Bomb Victims and supported by Gensuikyo, calls on all governments to conclude a treaty to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons, i.e. a nuclear weapons convention. People around the world are invited to endorse the appeal. Click here to see the appeal. Send your endorsement to Hidankyo

**b. Fold an origami crane for peace**

It is believed that folding 1,000 origami cranes brings one a peaceful and healthy life. Following the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, origami crane folding became an action for peace and nuclear abolition, particularly for young people. This arose from the story of Sadako Sasaki, a child at the time of the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima. Sadako contracted leukaemia from the radioactive fallout. She tried to make 1000 cranes but passed away before she could finish. Her classmates finished the 1000 cranes for her, and then made crane making their message for peace. They raised funds for a memorial to Sadako in the Hiroshima Peace Park. Origami crane making is now taught in schools around the world.

**Action:** Organise a crane-making workshop at your local school, youth group, workplace or place of worship.

**Resources:** [Video on folding a paper crane](https://example.com/folding_video), [The story of Sadako and the 1000 origami cranes](https://example.com/sadako_story), [The Peace Crane Project](https://example.com/peace_cranes)
c. Move the Nuclear Weapons Money

Money makes the world go around. The corporations manufacturing nuclear weapons are fueling the nuclear arms race for their own financial gain. They actively lobby their parliaments and governments to continue allocating the funds to nuclear weapons. And they support think tanks and other public initiatives to promote the ‘need’ for nuclear weapons maintenance, modernization or expansion.

You can help curb the power of the nuclear weapons corporations by:

- Encouraging your university, church, city, bank, pension fund, religious organisation or government to divest from the nuclear weapons industry (and checking that you are not investing in nuclear weapons);
- Joining the Move the Nuclear Weapons Money social media action. Post your photo and quote on what the money could instead support as a social media meme. Click here to see examples.
- If you are in a nuclear-armed country you can take action to cut the nuclear weapons budgets, and redirect this money to public health, economic recovery (post COVID-19), climate action and sustainable development.

For more information visit Move the Nuclear Weapons Money or Don’t Bank on the Bomb. Contact info@nuclearweaponsmoney.org.

d. Organise a prayer vigil or church service

Religious and faith-based communities can reflect on the morality of nuclear weapons, the role that ethics can play to abolish nuclear weapons, and the peace-making power of religious leadership and action.

Suggested action: Organise a prayer vigil in a peace-related public location or special service at your church, mosque, synagogue, temple or other place of worship.

Resource: Nuclear Disarmament for Religious Leaders and Communities. Available in Arabic, English, French, German, Japanese and Spanish. The Resource Guide includes background information on nuclear weapons, ethical and religious perspectives on nuclear deterrence, diplomatic opportunities to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world, roles of youth and women, examples of actions by religious communities, sample services and useful resources.

e. Engage your legislators – mayors and parliamentarians

Mayors/Cities: Over 8000 cities are members of Mayors for Peace, which is led by the Mayor of Hiroshima. See www.mayorsforpeace.org.

Actions:

- Organise a commemoration event at your city council or at a suitable site in your city (Peace Garden, Peace memorial....). Invite the mayor to speak. Present the Hiroshima Peace Declaration which will be released on August 6;
- Ask your city council to adopt a motion honouring the 75th anniversary of the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and supporting the call for the total abolition of nuclear weapons.
- Ask your city council to divest city funds from nuclear weapons corporations.
Parliamentarians: Parliamentarians play a key role in determining government policy regarding nuclear abolition. They are able to ask questions in parliament (to which governments have to reply), propose motions, release joint statements and organise events.

Over 700 parliamentarians from across the political spectrum have joined Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND) in order to learn more about nuclear disarmament and enhance their impact globally. PNND has been instrumental in the adoption of national legislations and international resolutions including one adopted by the Inter Parliamentary Union Assembly (178 member parliaments) calling on parliaments to work to eliminate the role of nuclear weapons in security doctrines and negotiate a nuclear weapons convention (a global treaty including the nuclear-armed states on the abolition and elimination of nuclear weapons).

Action: Invite your legislator/parliamentarian to join PNND and take action for nuclear disarmament. For parliamentary action ideas see the Parliamentary Action Plan for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World

f. Hold a film event – actual or virtual

Organise a nuclear disarmament film event. Documentaries include Nuclear Savage, The Nuns, The Priests and The Bombs, and Where the Wind Blew. Movies include The Man Who Saved the World, Thirteen Days (based on the Cuban Missile Crisis), Crimson Tide and The Peacemaker.

Contact info@pnnd.org for information and assistance with screening Where the Wind Blew or The Man who Saved the World.